

DECLARATION OF SARAH HOWARD

(1) I, Sarah Howard, am currently employed at the law firm of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd., 500 West Madison - Suite 3400, Chicago IL 60661, as a patent prosecution paralegal.

(2) Among my job duties is the handling of mail received from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO"). It is the standard procedure of our firm to date stamp correspondence received from the USPTO and electronically log a record of the correspondence into our electronic docketing system.

(3) I have reviewed our docketing records, and in particular, our records relating to Application Serial No. 10/648,573 (Our Attorney Docket No. 14221US02) (the "Application".) Our records do not include any record of receiving an Office action for the Application during the period from the mailing date of the Office action of June 6, 2008, until the receipt of the Notice of Abandonment mailed December 23, 2008.

I hereby declare that all statements made of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. I am also aware that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both (18 U.S.C. § 1001).

/Sarah Howard/

Date: 06-JAN-2009

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